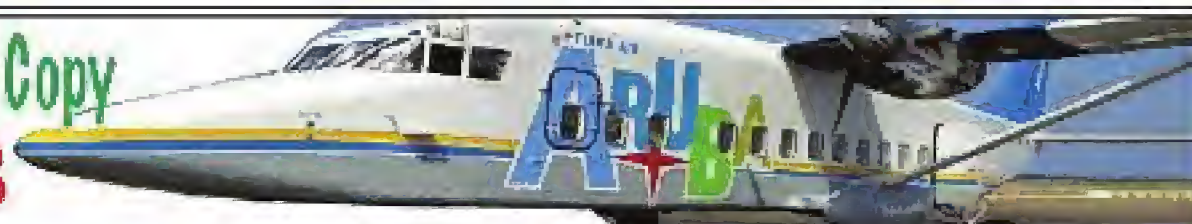


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Tropical Storm Andrea moves toward Florida



MIAMI (AFP) - Tropical storm Andrea churned toward Florida Thursday with the threat of heavy rains and tornadoes, after damaging crops in Cuba and forcing the evacuation of some 2,600 people.

As of midday the first named storm of the Atlantic season packed maximum winds of 95 km per hour (60 mph) as it moved northeast at 22 kilometers per hour (14 mph).

It was 255 kilometers (160 miles) west of Tampa and expected to pick up speed over the course of the day, the National Hurricane Center in Miami said, adding that Andrea carried the potential for whipping up tornadoes in central and southern Florida.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has said this hurricane season -- it runs from June 1 to November 30 -- will be particularly busy, with up to 20 tropical storms and as many as 11 hurricanes -- and up to six of them intense.

In Cuba, rain fell for seventh straight day Thursday as Andrea moved away from the island's western tip after forcing the evacuation of 2,600 people.

Some 30 villages were cut off by water, and in one hamlet more than 200 houses were submerged, the official newspaper Granma said.

The storm also caused crop damage that is still being tallied, it added.

Go Red for Women's Heart Health tomorrow at the Alhambra Conference Center



Dr. Stratego Castanes, Cardiologist

Tomorrow, June 8, the Aruba Heart Foundation will conduct their 2nd Annual Go Red Affair in the Alhambra Conference Center. Go Red particularly focuses on raising the awareness of women regarding the issues of heart disease and heart attack, a greater killer of women than "all cancers combined." Usually considered deadly for men, women whose families have a history of heart attack are just as vulnerable at a young age.

Keynote Speaker for the half-day event beginning at 9:00 AM is Dr. Stratego Castanes, Cardiologist at South Miami Heart Center, Florida, who will be talking first about "Knowing Your Numbers." Her colleague at Baptist Health, Kathleen Tuitt, talked to the MORNING NEWS about the importance of the conference, and women becoming more conscientious about their diet and being heart-healthy.

"Knowing your numbers is regarding the five important figures that can help a woman understand her risk for heart disease and heart attack," explained Ms. Tuitt during an

exclusive interview with THE MORNING NEWS. An individual's "Heart Score" is calculated by measuring blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), blood sugar levels, cholesterol levels, and waist size. This figures, combined with a family history regarding heart disease, provide reliable indicators as to which women are at risk, and also, what they must do to take control and reduce the risk of a heart attack.

Ms. Tuitt, a breast cancer survivor, is originally from Montserrat, and well aware of the very poor eating practices of Caribbean cultures, as well as the unhealthy practice of seeing big women as beautiful, which exacerbates the situation.

"Just being a small dress size does not guarantee that a woman is not at risk; other factors, such as blood sugar and cholesterol levels, could indicate otherwise. It all depends on the woman, she can be a size 12 or 14 and be in good health, depending on her body configuration. There is nothing wrong with the commonly seen plus-size woman feeling confident in her beauty, but she should be concerned about her health and use that confidence to establish a regimen that will get her



Kathleen Tuitt, Baptist Health

heart healthy."

Coincidentally, a PACO conference on the health issues of obesity in the Caribbean is taking place simultaneously at the Westin Resort. The principal issue is childhood obesity, which lays the groundwork for early health and heart problems in adulthood.

Ms. Tuitt has started a blog "Our Healthy, Happy Caribbean," becoming very aware of the chronic diseases plaguing Caribbean women while researching how best to recover and survive her bout with breast cancer. "This is my personal mission," she explained, "to help women of the region recognize their health issues and the importance of changing their diet and lifestyle."

Continued on pg 2

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Nagico's 30th anniversary celebration continues! Casibari Jan Lobbrecht Scouting receives support from Nagico Insurances



Nagico Insurances is celebrating its 30th anniversary in a distinctive manner. Last year in all countries where Nagico has operations a special reception was organized and different donations were made. This was also the case on Aruba. In addition to the donations that took place last year on Aruba, Nagico put a special fund available, which is being distributed among different organizations over a longer period of time.

To determine which organ-

izations will be awarded these donations, Nagico Insurances' President Imran McSood-Amjad enlisted the assistance of Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar of Social Affairs and Minister Arthur Dowers of Education to give a hand in the process of choosing the organizations to which special donations will be made. The largest insurance company in the Caribbean has put emphasis on its interest to support social and educational organizations.

Recently representatives of Nagico made a visit to Casibari Scouting to make a nice donation, which will be used towards different projects for the group. The children and their leaders were very happy that Minister Hooyboer-Winklaar chose their group to receive the donation. They expressed their gratitude by dedicating a special cheer to Nagico Insurances and the minister, which was extremely charming and much appreciated.

More organizations are to receive special surprise visits from Nagico, but the company does not want to reveal which organizations at this time. Nagico is very proud to be able to make these donations and thus give back to the community of Aruba which has received the company with enthusiasm.

Aruba has different scouting groups and two of them - formerly Jeanne d'Arc and now Casibari - have received donations from Nagico.

Scouting Group Casibari Jan Lobbrecht was founded

on April 19, 1971 and for a few years was the largest Scouting group on Aruba. The group has 15 dynamic leaders and 110 members, girls and boys, distributed over four units. The leaders work every day as volunteers, offering the necessary support to help the children become independent, strong adults who make positive contributions to the development of the country.

Go Red for Women's Heart Health...

Continued from pg 1

The starches and fried foods we love so much here, need to be replaced by raw, or lightly steamed plant-based foods; they should take up at least 60% of our plate."

"It isn't only about eating healthier," asserts Ms. Tuitt. "Wellness is a whole mind/body discipline. Exercise and meditation are excellent for dealing with stress. There are six or seven dimensions of wellness, some say nine. Personally, I go for the six: physical, mental, spiritual, how you handle stress and deal with people, are all elements of wellness. The concept of "exercise as medicine" and all the benefits it implies should be taken into account."

Among tomorrow's speakers is Dr. Pieter A. Dijkmans, Cardiologist at University Medical Center, Amsterdam. He will be presenting "Imaging of Women in the Caribbean: The Advent of Coronary CT." Following his presentation, Dr. Castanes will discuss "Matters of the Heart."

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US lawmakers urge Obama to act on currency manipulation

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A majority of US House members wrote President Barack Obama Thursday urging him to act against currency manipulation by nations like Japan, saying the tactics were "distorting the entire global economy."

The bipartisan effort comes as the United States negotiates the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a Pacific free trade agreement between 11 countries that would account for nearly 40 percent of the global economy.

"Exchange rates strongly influence trade flows, and in recent years currency manipulation has contributed to the US trade deficit and cost us American jobs," said the group of 226 members of Congress in their letter.

"Incorporating currency provisions in the agreement will strengthen our ability to combat these unfair trade practices and help to create a level playing field for American workers, businesses, and farmers."

They said up to a million US jobs have been "shipped overseas" as a result of currency manipulation alone.

And "the consequences are not singular to the US; misaligned currencies are distorting the entire global economy," they said.

None of the top four House lawmakers, including Speaker John Boehner and Democratic leader Nancy

Pelosi, signed the letter, but heavy hitters like Budget Committee chairman Paul Ryan and the committee's ranking Democrat Chris Van Hollen did.

With Japan virtually certain of joining the TPP negotiations next year, lawmakers singled out the island nation as a primary currency manipulator, particularly with the "market-distorting" practices of Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

The House letter to Obama came just as Abe told AFP in an interview that his policies were "the only way" to fix the world's third biggest economy.

Those comments came days after the International Monetary Fund warned of downside risks to Tokyo's ballooning national debt.

Aruba Marriott wins "Hotel of the Year" Award of 2012



Recently, the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino has won the prestigious 'Hotel of the Year' award for the great results obtained in 2012. This recognition puts the hotel as the best of the best in the Southern Region within the Marriott Hotels, Resorts and Suites brand.

The Hotel of the Year award is designed to recognize the hotel that best executes on the brand promise while driving overall balanced score card. In order to become Hotel of the Year, the criteria display excellence in the following categories: Guest Overall Satisfaction, Market

Share Excellence, Financial Excellence and Engagement Leadership Excellence.

Craig Smith, President of Marriott's Caribbean and Latin America region presented the Award: "For the recipient of this award, when you hear the words 'Hit out of the Park', you think of this team. 2012 was the year when this highly engaged dynamic team put their heads together and decided to show the region what it means to run an effective business."

The resort focused on the key factors providing excellent guest service and understanding the importance of

customer overall satisfaction, numbers that increased overall in 2012 enormously. Additionally the resort gained great financial results and market share.

"I am honored to announce this news to our associates. Because of their hard work and dedication to our guests, the resort received this prestigious Award," said General Manager Tom Calame of the Aruba Marriott Resort.

The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino thanks all its wonderful associates for their hard work and team spirit. Masha pabien!

Sandy and Robin Goldfine honored by ATA at the Marriott Surf Club



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Goodwill at the Marriott Surf Club.

The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Sandy and Mrs.

Robin Goldfine from Phoenixville PA USA. Sandy and Robin are Loyal members of the Marriott Surf Club, and they love Aruba for the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants and they love to see how clean Aruba is. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Luzdary Patterson- Leest representing the Marriott Surf Club



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Aruba's Hospital intent on improving service and quality care even more



Last week, the Aruba Dr. Horacio Oduber Hospital invited Professor mr. Dr. J.H. Hubben from the "Holland Consulting Group" to discuss

the general quality of health care here.

The Dutch expert discussed a number of topics related to medical care from a

legal standpoint such as rules and existing laws applicable to the Hospital. He also explained the latest developments, as well as those laws currently in preparation and adaptation.

Professor Hubben provides advice to Boards and advises Supervisory Bodies concerning the processes of quality health care, "governance" and management structure related to health and legal jurisprudence. Hubben is a lawyer specialized in the field of health and is also a University professor. He is widely recognized for his experience as a mediator and arbiter. He has more than 250 publications in books and magazines in his name.

Aruba took advantage of Hubben's time on Aruba and prepared an elaborate program to be able to benefit from his expertise. During the morning hours he sat down with the Supervisory Board of the Hospital and discussed various matters of importance with them. He later met with the medical staff of the Hospital. Later that morning he gave a presentation focusing on the developments in medical care in Hospitals. He explained that quality care must be on three levels, governmental, the level of the hospital and the level of doctors. Much work is being done and the Hospital is intensely busy formalizing the rules for

quality care. Our Hospital has her own rules, but is working on expanding these.

Aruba is in the process of establishing a basis for defining quality care in our current laws. This is currently at the Advisory Council waiting for implementation into law by the Minister as soon as this is ready. They are also working on the formalization and introduction of rules related to cases of emergency at the Hospital.

The Hospital was very pleased to have Professor Hubben and will certainly make good advantage of his expertise and remain on the alert for developments in the area of public health so they can implement the best possible care for our patients.

June 12 & 13 Read aloud festival at the public library



Biblioteca Nacional Aruba will be presenting a Read Aloud Festival both in Oran-

jestad and San Nicolas.

This festival will take place on Wednesday, June 12th and Thursday, June 13th, and is for people who like to read stories aloud or those who like listening to stories read to them. The program in the evening is from 7 o'clock till 9 o'clock. Wednesday will be the library in Oranjestad and Thursday evening in the library of San Nicolas.

On the program are readers, young and old, who want to inspire the audience to read their favorite story by reading a fragment of the story. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy.



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SETAR wishes to thank all its postpaid clients for their support during their 10 years as SETAR N.V. and always.

Photo depicts Ms. Sorayma receiving her prize from SETAR's Sales representative Ronica Moore-Lopez.

Mexico could be legal pot exporter: ex-president

GUANAJUATO (AFP) - Ex-president Vicente Fox said Wednesday that Mexico should legalize marijuana, steal business back from violent drug cartels -- and when it's legal, he's in (as a grower).

"Once it is legitimate and legal, of course, I do some farming. I can do it myself," the conservative former leader said from his ranch in San Francisco del Rincon. Fox, a former Coca-Cola executive who was president from 2000-2006, surprised many when he was among early voices in Mexico calling for illegal drugs to be legalized, seeing it as the only way to break the cycle of violent crime.

"Mexico should become an authorized producer, and export marijuana to places where it is already legal," argued Fox, who is part of a group of former Latin American leaders pushing for drug legalization opposed by the United States.

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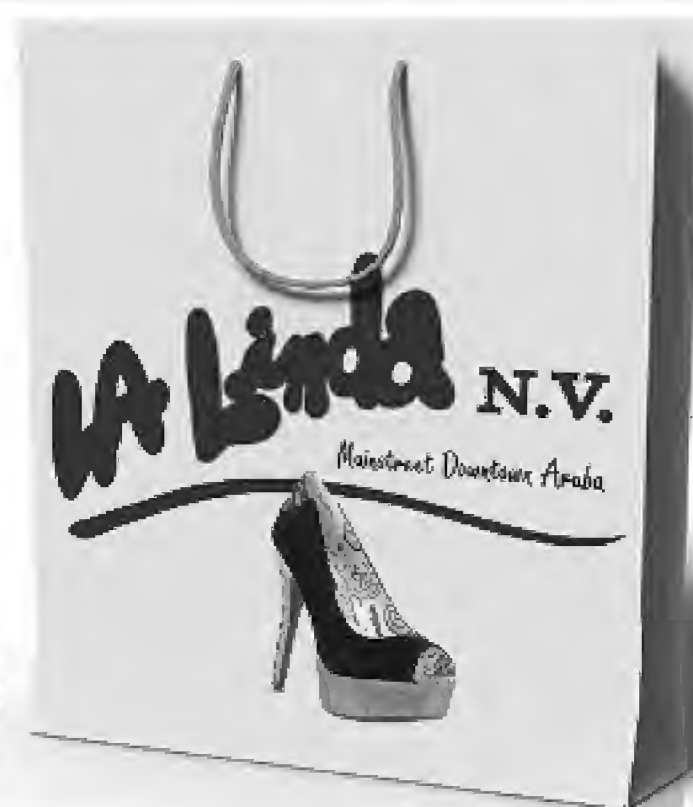
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Sandbags and raw nerves as flood peak hits Germany

BITTERFELD (AFP) - Germany pushed on with efforts to secure river dykes with sandbags Thursday, bracing for a surge of the worst floods in over a decade that have claimed 12 lives and forced mass evacuations across central Europe.

Vast stretches along the Elbe river basin have turned into a sea of brown water in the Czech Republic and downstream in eastern Germany, with red-tiled roofs sticking out of the muddy water in many abandoned villages now accessible only by boat or helicopter.

The picture of devastation was similar along the mighty Danube, which has jumped its banks in Germany's southern Bavaria state and Austria and sparked large-scale disaster preparations in Hungary, where the water was expected to peak in coming days.

In northeast Germany, thousands of volunteers, many organised through social

media, as well as 85,000 firefighters, aid workers and troops have filled millions of sandbags to hold back the torrent which has risen from two to above eight metres (six to above 26 feet).

Thousands kept a nervous watch on flood barriers while recalling dark memories of the 2002 floods that killed scores across central Europe and caused a clean-up bill running to billions of euros (dollars).

Fears were centred on Bitterfeld in Saxony-Anhalt state where two lakes, one higher than the other, loom dangerously close to a city that during the communist East Germany era became notorious as a heavily polluted industrial centre.

Local officials have warned that a breach in the lake defences could spark a "mini-tsunami", and officials have twice attempted to blow holes in the lake dyke away from the city, with limited success.

Syrian army retakes Golan crossing from rebels

QUNEITRA CROSSING (AFP) - Syrian rebels on Thursday briefly seized the only crossing along the Israel-Syria ceasefire line on the Golan, before regime forces recaptured it using tanks, an AFP correspondent and Israeli sources said.

The fighting took place at the Quneitra crossing and the nearby village of the same in the demilitarised zone between the Syrian part of the strategic plateau and the Israeli-occupied sector.

The clashes were very close to the headquarters of a UN peacekeeping force, prompting Austria to an-

nounce it was withdrawing its troops and throwing the mission into disarray.

"The Syrian army has recovered control of the crossing," an Israeli security source told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

An AFP correspondent near the crossing also confirmed that forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad had retaken Quneitra, saying he could see regime tanks moving inside the area.

Quneitra is the only crossing point between Syria and the Israeli side of the Golan Heights.

US evaluating French chemical weapons info

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States is evaluating information received from France which Paris has billed as proof that chemical weapons have been used in Syria, a US official said Thursday.

"I can confirm for you that we have received the information from the French," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki told reporters, after French officials said they had evidence that sarin gas had been used in Syria.

"We will take a close look at this, just like we take a close look at any information that's provided, and we always recommend that any country provide information as well to the UN for their full investigation."

But Psaki warned the US did not intend to "evaluate or litigate in public" whatever information it has received from Paris.

"We are still looking into finalizing the facts, looking into confirming the facts," she said, denying that the close inspection of the French information was pouring doubt on its credibility.

"We're doing our own due diligence on this," Psaki stressed.

President Barack Obama has said that any use of chemical weapons in the Syria conflict, now in its third year, would violate a US "red line". But amid mounting reports such arms have been used, Washington has proceeded cautiously.

Amid mounting pressure for the US to act, Secretary of State John Kerry called on France on Wednesday to share its evidence of chemical weapons use.

North, South Korea agree to official talks

SEOUL (AFP) - North and South Korea agreed in principle Thursday to hold their first official talks for years, a move which follows months of escalated military tensions and comes one day before a US-China summit.

A surprise offer from Pyongyang proposed discussions on a range of commercial and humanitarian issues, from reopening a joint industrial complex to resuming cross-border family reunions.

In an unusually quick reply, South Korea called for minister-level talks on June 12 in Seoul, and urged the North to reopen severed communications channels for working-level discussions from Friday.

"I hope... dialogue will provide a momentum for South and North Korea to improve relations based on mutual trust," said South Korea's Unification Minister Ryoo Kihl-Jae.

China, the North's sole major ally and economic benefactor, has been under pressure from the United

States to restrain its neighbour. It responded positively to the news.

US President Barack Obama and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping will hold a summit in California on Friday and Saturday, at which North Korea is likely to be a leading topic.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon welcomed the announcement.

"This is an encouraging development towards reducing tensions and promoting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula," his spokesman said in a statement.

Analysts also welcomed the development but some advised caution, saying the precise nature and agenda of the dialogue might create insurmountable sticking points.

"I think this is an attempt by the North to seize the initiative, but it's premature to say whether the offer is likely to lead to a sincere dialogue," said Yang Moo-jin, a professor at the University of North Korean Studies in Seoul.



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International News

Cell phone records report triggers US outrage

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Civil liberty groups and privacy campaigners reacted with outrage Thursday to a report that the US intelligence community, under President Barack Obama, is pursuing the wide-scale monitoring of millions of Americans' cell phone records.

"It's a program in which some untold number of innocent people have been put under the constant surveillance of government agents," said Jameel Jaffer, deputy legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

Former vice president Al Gore, on his Twitter feed, agreed: "In (this) digital era, privacy must be a priority. Is it just me, or is secret blanket surveillance obscenely outrageous?"

The Guardian newspaper in London reported Thursday that Verizon, one of the major US mobile phone operators, is under a top-secret court order to give the National Security Agency details on all telephone calls, both domestic and international, made on its networks.

Reproducing the court order on its website, the Guardian said it shows for the first time that under Obama's administration, the phone records of millions of Americans are being indiscriminately collected by the National Security Agency (NSA) "regardless of whether they are suspected of any wrongdoing."

The White House did not explicitly confirm the report, but a senior official acknowledged Thursday that collecting phone

records was a critical part of the ongoing US war on terrorism.

The San Francisco-based Electronic Frontier Foundation, a non-profit digital rights group, alleged that such "untargeted, wholly domestic surveillance" has been going on for at least seven years, when George W. Bush was president.

There was no immediate reaction from Verizon, which alongside AT&T, Sprint and T-Mobile, is among the biggest mobile phone operators in the United States, where 87 percent of adults have a cellphone.

The EFF said: "This revelation should end, once and for all, the government's long-discredited secrecy claims about its dragnet domestic surveillance programs."

Puerto Rico's Lalo wins lit award

CARACAS (AFP) - Puerto Rican novelist Eduardo Lalo has won one of the Spanish speaking world's top literary awards for an urban love story with a mystery entwined in it.

"Simone" triumphed in the 23rd edition of the Romulo Gallegos Prize, named after Venezuela's greatest 20th century author.

Lalo is the first Puerto Rican to win the prize.

Set in the streets, taverns and other darker sides of San Juan, a city normally associated with the sun and surf of the Caribbean, his book is about a

French teenaged activist dies after skinhead fight in Paris

PARIS (AFP) - A teenaged far-left French activist died on Thursday after a fight with skinheads in Paris, sparking concern over the rise of extreme-right groups, as police grilled seven people over the tragedy.

Clement Meric, 18, a student at the city's prestigious Sciences-Po university, had been left brain dead after Wednesday's attack near the city's central Saint-Lazare railway station.

A police source who confirmed his death said three men and a woman had been held for questioning, adding that the attacker thought to have dealt the fatal blow said he did not intend to kill.

The man who is in his twenties is a known skinhead.

Another source later said three others had been detained. They had links to far-right groups, the source added.

Merics peers and former

teachers described him as a model student with a strong social conscience.

Hundreds meanwhile gathered to pay tribute to Meric at the Sciences-Po and the site of the violence. Many shouted a slogan in Spanish "They Shall Not Pass" -- used to express determination to defend a position against an enemy.

Politicians across the spectrum condemned the incident, with some calling for the government to ban groups they say are becoming increasingly violent and brazen in their actions.

Far-right groups have been blamed for violent clashes that marred a number of recent protests over France's legalisation of gay marriage.

The country's interior minister Manuel Valls said the tragedy "bears the marks of the far-right", while President Francois Hollande sent his "support and solidarity" to the family of the victim.

Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault vowed to "find legal and political responses to beat racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic movements."

Reports diverge on what sparked the fight outside a shop



that sold clothes popular with far-right activists and skinheads near the train station.

Police said a group of young "skinhead types" found themselves in the shop with another group that included Meric, sparking a wave of insults and jostling.

The skinheads then left the shop and waited for the group outside with other people, and the victim "was hit by one of the skinheads who wore a knuckleduster and fell on the pavement, hitting a bollard."

A police source said the victim was involved in the "extreme-left anti-fascist movement."

Left wing activists said the skinheads were part of the extreme-right Revolutionary Nationalist Youth (JNR) group.

Marine Le Pen, head of the far right National Front, said her party had "no link" with the "horrendous" incident.



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If you're stressed, whether by your job or by something more personal, the first step to feeling better is to identify the cause.

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Almost everyone can benefit from learning relaxation techniques. Relaxation tech-

niques help to slow your breathing and to focus your attention on the here and now.

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Swimming (at least an hour daily)



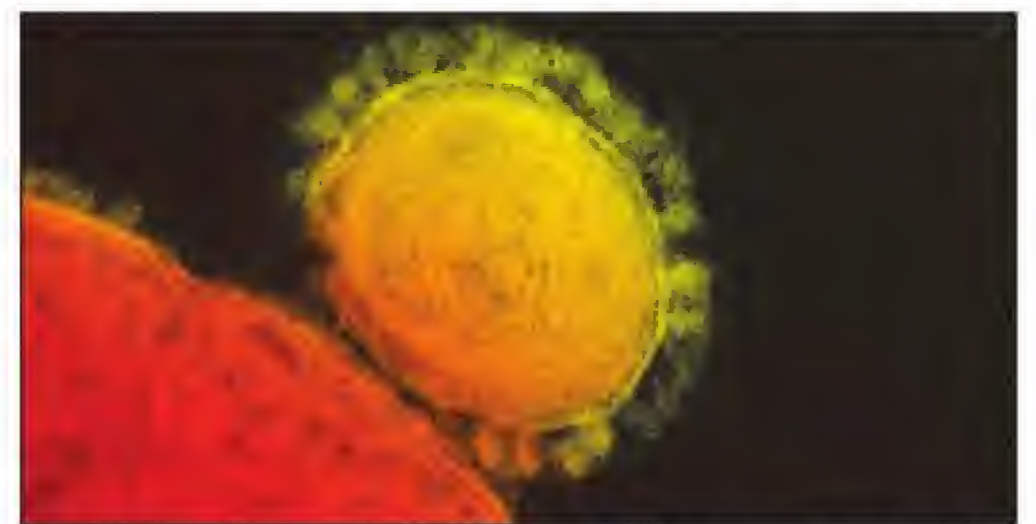
Walking (at least an hour daily)



Yoga and Meditation (alone or even in a group)



New Saudi death from MERS virus: ministry



A colorized transmission of the MERS coronavirus that emerged in 2012.

RIYADH (AFP) - The Saudi health ministry on Thursday announced the death of one of its citizens in the eastern region of Al-Ahsaa after he contracted MERS, a SARS-like virus.

The ministry website said the latest death, announced on Wednesday, brings to 25 the number of people who have died from the virus since September, adding that 40 people are suffering from the disease in the kingdom.

The strain was renamed the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus, or MERS, reflecting the fact that the bulk of the cases are in that region, mainly in Saudi Arabia.

On May 31, the World Health Organisation said that the global death toll from the virus has risen to 30.

Previously known as nCoV-EMC novel coronavirus, the disease is a cousin of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which sparked a world health scare in 2003 when it leapt from animals to humans in Asia and killed some 800 people.

Like SARS, MERS appears to cause an infection deep in the lungs, with patients suffering from a temperature, coughing and difficulty breathing.

However, it differs from SARS in that it also causes rapid kidney failure.

Health officials have expressed concern about the high rate of fatalities compared to the number of cases, warning that the disease could spark a new global crisis if it acquires an ability to spread more easily.

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Sci-Tech

Microsoft launches new jobs drive for S.Africa



JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Microsoft launched Thursday a campaign aimed at helping 3,000 graduates find information technology jobs in South Africa, where one in four workers is officially unemployed.

The software giant will partner with the South African government's job creation fund to train the youths and place them in permanent employment.

The company will act as a link between universities and IT companies that they will approach to determine needed skills.

Despite it being the continent's largest and wealthiest economy, South Africa is reeling under chronic joblessness.

Officially, 25 percent of the people who could be employed have no job, of which 70 percent are young people.

The expanded joblessness rate, which includes people who have given up looking work, paints an even bleaker picture with nearly 37 percent of South Africans unemployed.

For the 3,000 jobs it is targeting, Microsoft is investing 146 million rand (\$14.6 million) as part of its \$75 million pan-African initiative.

"It is very clear for us as a company, if we want to be relevant, if we want to sustain our growth as a company, we have to work in partnership with many constituencies in Africa," Courtois told AFP.

Dresden braces for flood as German rivers burst banks



-- (AFP) People in the German city of Dresden have worked through the night to shore up flood defences, as the swollen waters of the River Elbe reach a peak. The situation remains critical in the southern town of Deggendorf, where levees burst on Wednesday. The floods, brought on after a wet spring and sudden heavy rain, have caused 13 deaths across central Europe.



Houses are overflowed at the river Elbe in Dresden, eastern Germany, on Wednesday.

Asus touts 'world's first' three-in-one tablet computer



TAIPEI (AFP) - Taiwan's computer manufacturer Asus unveiled a mobile device Wednesday that it described as the world's first three-in-one tablet, laptop and desktop computer.

The Transformer Book Trio, shown off at the Computex Taipei IT trade show, is powered by Intel's new fourth-generation processors and runs both Windows and Android operating systems.

It features an 11.6-inch 1080p screen and a detachable keyboard, allowing the user to operate the device as a tablet or a laptop computer. It can also be plugged into an external monitor and function as a desktop PC, the company said.

When the screen and keyboard are connected the system operates as a Windows PC, while separating the screen allows it to be used as an Android tablet.

The hybrid is likely to be launched by the end of this year, the company said.

Asus did not disclose the price of its latest Transformer model, but analysts expect it to be relatively expensive and fear its complicated design may be a challenge to some users.

"I'm afraid the new gadget

may not help drive up Asus's growth too much. It is definitely a good design but it has complicated functions which are not easy to use to many users," said Mars Hsu, an analyst at Grand Cathay Securities.

"Another barrier would be its price. We expect it to sell for at least Tw\$40,000 (\$1,345) which is relatively high compared with the current mainstream notebooks."

The low-cost tablet was unveiled after Acer launched the industry's first 8.1-inch tablet to run Microsoft's Windows 8 software.

Shipments of Asus notebooks and hybrid computers in the three months to March totalled 4.7 million units, and it expects the number to rise to 4.8 million units in the second quarter.

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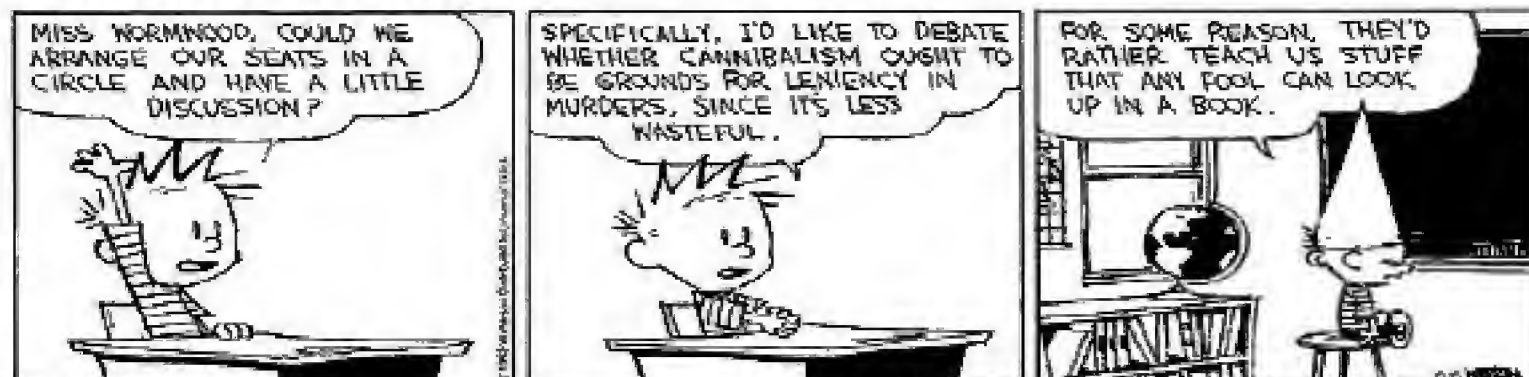
PICKLES



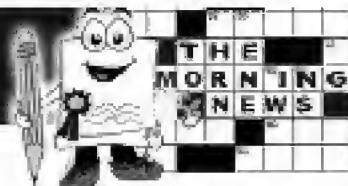
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ACROSS

1. Letterman's network
4. End-of-week initials
8. Put your hands together
12. Move like a frog
13. Actress Skye
14. Split
15. Off ___ tangent (2 wds.)
16. Operations center
17. Recedes
18. Muted color
20. Cut off twigs
22. "___ My Party"
23. Car's ___ valve
27. Slight
30. Explosive trio
31. Kilmer of "Batman Forever"
32. March flier
33. Peat marsh
34. Programs the alarm
35. "___ Cry Tomorrow"
36. Actress Lenz
37. Orchard sight
38. ___ of the community
40. Deli loaf
42. Wayfarer's stopover
43. TV antenna
47. ___ radio (hyph.)
50. Edison's middle name
52. Undercover gp.

DOWN

53. Faucet woe
54. Rathskeller order
55. NYC summer setting
56. Knights
57. Tall tale
58. Witness
1. Popular pork cut
2. ___ fide
3. Watering places
4. "Seven Years in ___"
5. Hockey scores
6. Elected ones
7. Emotion
8. Crawled
9. Book borrowing spot (abbr.)

10. Lackland, for one (abbr.)

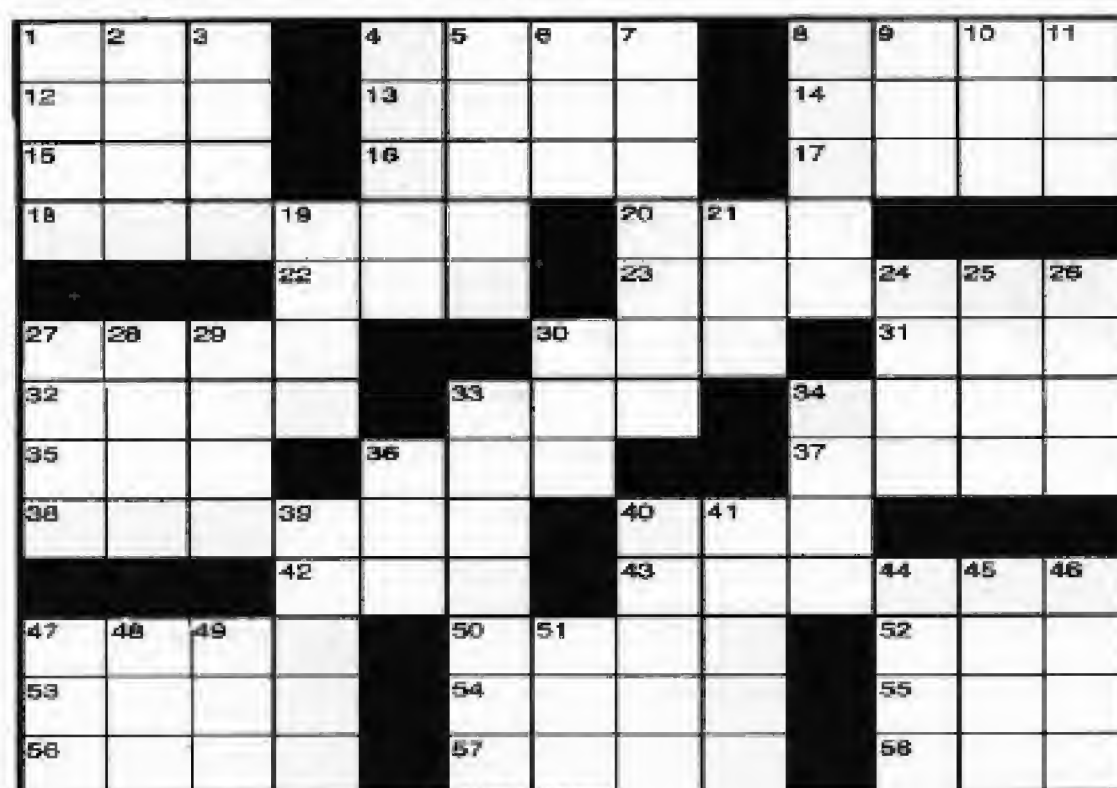
11. Liquid measures (abbr.)
19. Clock information
21. Toronto's province (abbr.)
24. Affirm
25. Actress Mulgrew
26. Otherwise
27. "___ it!"
28. Actress Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
29. "___ keep"
30. Mattel product
33. "___ Jones" (Ebsen series)
34. After ham or

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gang

36. Topeka's st.
39. Walks lamely
40. One who has a tantrum
41. Hanker
44. Frosts a cake
45. Candy striper
46. Not punctual
47. Commercials, briefly
48. Modern diagnostic tool (abbr.)
49. Evergreen
51. Pasture



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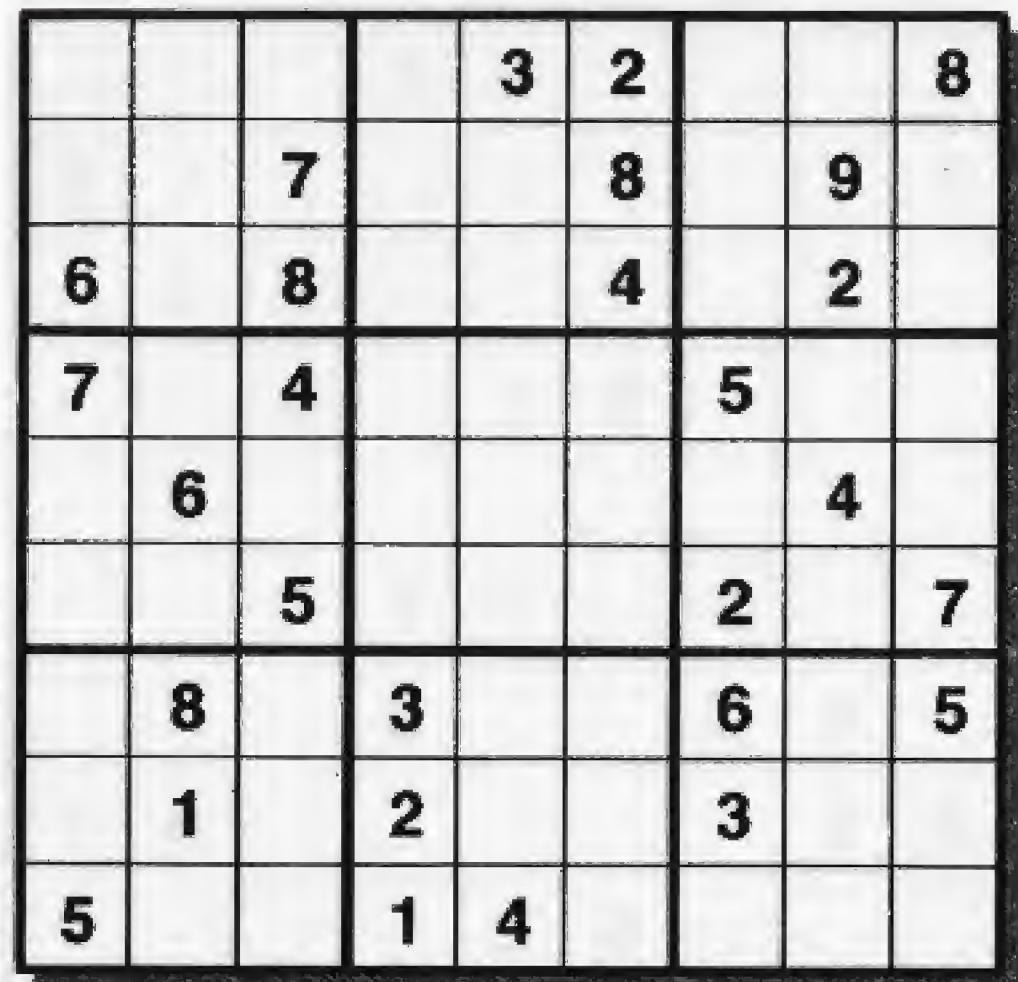
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

2	8	8	9	1	2	5
5	1	9	2	6	8	7
4	6	3	1	9	7	5
6	7	8	5	2	1	9
1	9	5	6	2	8	7
8	2	1	7	4	9	3
9	6	7	8	1	5	2
9	9	2	2	8	9	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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FINANCE

Suspects plead not guilty in \$6 bn US fraud probe

NEW YORK (AFP) - Two suspects pleaded not guilty Thursday in what US authorities say is the largest ever international money laundering prosecution, which targeted a Costa Rica-based digital currency operator.

Vladimir Kats, 41, and Mark Marmilev, 27, both Americans, appeared before Judge Denise Cote in a US federal court in Manhattan.

Along with five others implicated in the case, they worked at Liberty Reserve, which handled huge amounts of money outside the control of national governments and is charged with running a \$6 billion money laundering scheme.

All are charged with conspiracy to commit money laundering, conspiracy to operate an unlicensed money transmitting business, as well as operation of an unlicensed money transmitting business.

The illegal transactions occurred between 2006 and 2013, according to the indictment.

Five of the seven were arrested in a May 24 roundup launched simultaneously in Costa Rica, Spain and New York, sealing the fate of a company that had been one of the most successful in the popular but increasingly scrutinized world of unofficial banking and virtual currencies.

The other two suspects remain at large.

The probe involved law en-

forcement in 17 countries and "is believed to be the largest money laundering prosecution in history," prosecutors said.

Authorities say that when Liberty Reserve realized it was under investigation it made a show of shutting down, yet continued to operate behind an array of shell companies in Australia, China, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Morocco, Russia and Spain.

At Thursday's session, Cote said the government hopes to produce evidence in the case around June 21.

Nestle, Mars accused in Canada of chocolate price-fixing

OTTAWA (AFP) - Canadian authorities charged Nestle, Mars and a network of independent wholesale distributors Thursday over an alleged criminal conspiracy to fix the prices of leading chocolate brands.

Competition Commissioner John Pecman called their alleged actions "egregious anti-competitive behavior that harms Canadian consumers" and "a serious criminal offense."

A whistleblower triggered an investigation that uncovered "evidence suggesting that the accused conspired, agreed or arranged to fix prices of chocolate products," the Competition Bureau said in a statement.

Three individuals were also charged: Robert Leonidas, former president of Nestle Canada; Sandra Martinez, former president of Confectionery for Nestle Canada; and David Glenn Stevens, head of Canadian food distributor ITWAL.

If convicted, they face a fine of up to Can\$10 million (US\$9.75 million) and, or imprisonment for a term of up to five years.

Officials said Hershey Canada Inc., an alleged co-conspirator, cooperated with its investigation and agreed to plead guilty at a hearing on June 21 in exchange for leniency.

A fifth unnamed company that claimed to be part of the cartel revealed the scheme to

the Competition Bureau, as part of program offering immunity to the first party to disclose an offense not yet detected or to provide evidence leading to charges, Pierre Yves Guay, a spokesman for the Competition Bureau, told AFP.

The alleged price-fixing involved chocolate bars sold across Canada from 2002 to 2008, he said, including Kit Kat, Coffee Crisp, Aero, Twix, Snickers, Bounty and M&M's.

How the scheme worked is expected to be revealed at Hershey's trial.

In a statement Nestle, however, said these were old allegations and vowed to "vigorously defend" itself.

Nestle, Mars and five other companies faced a similar price-fixing probe in Germany in 2008, after almost simultaneous sharp price increases of up to 25 percent for chocolate and confectionery. German police raided their offices.

The groups cited the rising cost of raw materials for the price increases.

Earlier this year, Nestle was fined along with 10 other chocolate and confectionery companies a total of 60 million euros (US\$79.5 million) for colluding to raise chocolate prices in Germany while a Mars subsidiary avoided penalties by cooperating with German authorities.

US bill would deny visas, freeze assets of hackers

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A group of lawmakers proposed legislation Thursday that would deny US entry and freeze the assets of foreign nationals involved in hacking or cybercrimes targeting the United States.

The Cyber Economic Espionage Accountability Act calls US authorities "to bring more economic espionage criminal cases against offending foreign actors," the lawmakers said in a statement.

The bill would also ban foreigners participating in cyber crimes from getting visas to enter the United States. If they are US residents, their visa would be revoked and their financial assets frozen under the proposal.

The announcement came on the eve of President Barack Obama's first summit with new Chinese President Xi Jinping at a secluded California retreat.

The meeting in the desert

oasis will focus on testy issues between Washington and Beijing -- great power rivalry, claims of cyber spying, trade and currency disputes and North Korea's dangerous nuclear poker.

"This bill will give the president and Congress the power and oversight to deal with foreign cyber espionage in a meaningful way," said Representative Tim Ryan, another sponsor.



NAPLES (AFP) - Train carriages under construction at the AnsaldoBreda manufacturing plant in Naples on June 06 2013. AnsaldoBreda denied all accusations about the problems encountered by their Fyra V250 train in Belgium and the Netherlands. Known popularly as the "Fyra", the high-speed train was supposed to carry passengers from Amsterdam to Brussels at speeds of around 250 km/h (155 miles per hour), but has run into major problems since its official launch on December 9 last year.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

SLOB MOB NEVE
TOFU ILE AVON
SPAR DEATANG
ROTD RIP
SCORED EVOKE
MAOERE MERIT
RIN MLK ATO
INCAS TIE TEN
STORK ANNIES
UNIT DEN
CORE ATE ERRS
PUSS SRS PIES
ARES KAT TOGA



Current as of: 06/06/2013				
	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.77	1.79	1.75
Britain	GBP	2.80	2.85	2.80
Switzerland	CHF	191.71	192.43	190.42
Netherlands	EUR	230.59	232.69	235.99
Sweden	SEK	25.91	26.63	27.68
Denmark	DKK	30.23	30.95	31.90
Norway	NOK	30.67	31.39	31.37
Japan	JPY	214.88	216.84	181.58

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Pope could help in interfaith peace talks: Israel's Peres



JERUSALEM3 (AFP) - Israeli President Shimon Peres has raised the possibility of an interfaith conference on peace during a recent encounter with Pope Francis in Rome, the presidency said.

"The issue of a multi-faith

conference was raised, and President Peres expressed his belief that Pope Francis can play an important role in progressing peace," the office of Peres informed AFP in a statement.

Details of such a proposed

conference, which would bring together Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders, have yet to be discussed, according to Israeli sources.

Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi told AFP on Thursday he was not aware that Peres had raised this notion during his meeting with Pope Francis, while recalling the general themes of the meeting, which included peace in the region and an invitation to visit the Holy Land.

In late April, the Israeli president told Francis he was "expecting" him in Jerusalem.

Lombardi said the Pope desired to visit the Holy Land, but said that there were no concrete plans yet.

Scientists tell Australia to save Great Barrier Reef



SYDNEY (AFP) - Leading marine scientists warned the Australian government this week of the growing threat to the Great Barrier Reef from unchecked industrial development.

More than 150 scientists from 33 institutions signed a statement saying that the mining and gas boom along the Queensland state coast was hastening the decline of the World Heritage area.

The UN's educational, scientific and cultural body meets later this month to discuss proposals to list the giant reef as a site "in danger".

A UNESCO report in March found 43 development proposals in the vicinity of the huge reef were under assessment and that the federal and state governments had failed to improve water quality in the area.

In the declaration, the scientists voiced concern about "the additional pressures that will be exerted by expansion of coastal ports and industrial develop-

ment accompanied by a projected near-doubling in shipping, major coastal reclamation works, large-scale seabed dredging and dredge spoil disposal all either immediately adjacent to, or within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area".

"We are calling on the Queensland and Australian governments to ensure that the outstanding universal value ... of the ... World Heritage property is protected."

Ecologist Hugh Possingham said that over the last 27 years half of the reef's coral has been degraded.

"This is just going to accelerate that, so we should really be doing the reverse," he told state broadcaster ABC.

"This just feels like a further insult, particularly the dredge and the sediments that are going to be dug up in making these ports."

Such development was "likely to be the straw that breaks the camel's back," he

added.

Other signatories of the statement include scientists from the University of Hawaii, Australia's James Cook University, University of Melbourne and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

Ports on the Barrier Reef coast currently export 156 million tonnes of coal per annum (mtpa) and there are plans to expand that to 953 mtpa within the next decade. By 2020 an estimated 7,000 ships will traverse the reef every year, up from 5,000 in 2010.



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Great Wall of trouble for Chinese farmer



JIAYUGUAN (AFP) - At the farthest end of the Great Wall, Yang Yongfu limps along the section he arduously restored, in effect "privatising" it and putting himself on a collision course with the authorities.

The farmer spent five million yuan (\$800,000) and years of backbreaking work renovating several hundred metres of the national symbol deep in northwestern China, turning it into a tourist site.

"At the beginning people didn't understand why I took on this project. They called me crazy," said the 52-year-old.

The Great Wall is not a single unbroken structure -- nor is it visible from space -- but stretches for thousands of kilometres, from Shanhaiguan on the east coast to Jiayuguan in the windswept sands on the edge of the Gobi desert.

In places it is so dilapidated that estimates of its total length vary from 9,000 to 21,000 kilometres (5,600 to 13,000 miles), depending on whether missing sectors are included.

First begun in the third century BC, parts were still being built in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), among them Yang's section.

It was little more than a ruin when he started work in 2000, but now 790 metres (half a mile) of ochre wall run out from a small fort across a stony plain, snaking upwards over a bare hillside via several watch-

towers.

Built of bricks and rendered with earth, his wall averages around 4.5 metres high and is topped with battlements.

"People were sceptical, because they thought renovating the wall was the job of the government," said Yang. "I was surprised at the success I had. But this could also be considered an act of patriotism."

He set up an entrance area for tourists, complete with a car park and fishpond, and his wife Tao Huiping collects the 25 yuan admittance fee at the ticket booth -- a table in the open air.

"Today about 30 people came," she said, holding up the ticket stubs, beaming proudly and praising her husband's "phenomenal" work. "People call him Emperor Yang," she said laughing.

Their opportunity came about in 1999, Yang said, when local authorities called on residents to renovate the Wall themselves, and officials gave him authorisation to do so. The money came from savings and loans from relatives.

In recent decades the Wall has suffered the depredations of farmers stealing its stones for building, and construction crews cutting through it with roads and railways.

Some of the greatest damage came during the turmoil of the 1966-1976 Cultural Revolution.

5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



--A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48, with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda,



Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of

fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community

of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas. The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property, not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

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PETAH TIKVA (AFP) - : Netherlands' defender Ricardo van Rhijn dives for the ball during the 2013 UEFA U-21 Championship group B football match between Netherlands and Germany at HaMoshava Stadium in Petah Tikva, north of Tel Aviv, Israel. The Netherlands defeated Germany 3-2.

Formula One: Alonso warns Vettel his luck will run out

MONTREAL (AFP) - Fernando Alonso on Thursday warned Sebastian Vettel that his run of good luck will come to an end sooner or later.

Two-time champion Spaniard Alonso of Ferrari told reporters in the paddock at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve ahead of this weekend's Canadian Grand Prix that the Red Bull man had been lucky this season, but that will change.

Alonso said: "We have two points more now than last year and we were leading the championship last year at this time. So in a way, we are doing better than last year."

"But, what is a little bit out at the moment are the points that Sebastian has scored in these six races. Unlucky races will come to everyone and will come to him as well. It came to Kimi [Raikkonen] in Monaco with the accident and we are only five points behind him."

"So, it will come to Sebastian and we need to maximise."

After six races, including



Alonso

two in Europe, Alonso is 29 points adrift of the defending triple champion and current series leader.

But he is convinced he can close the gap and pointed to various incidents to show how lucky the young German has been.

He referred to Vettel surviving a brush with Briton Lewis Hamilton's Mercedes at the start of the Spanish GP as an example of how fortune has been on the Red Bull driver's side.

"Our team has been very unlucky with the situations we have faced this year," said Alonso. "We saw many people touch in the first corner, last time it was Barcelona where Hamilton and Vettel touched at Turn One and nothing happened, but when I touched the back of his car in Malaysia and we were out of the race, which was very unlucky."

"The DRS does not open sometimes, but not closing never happens so we were a bit unlucky also in Bahrain too."

Having finished a distant seventh in last month's Monaco Grand Prix, Alonso has said he is determined to score a heavy harvest of points in the next four races before the August 'summer break'.

"In Monaco, we didn't score so many points so we need four or five consecutive races on the podium or close to the podium to recover some of the points we have missed," he explained. "This weekend, we must score good points."

SPORTS

Athletics: Gatlin pips Bolt in Rome



ROME (AFP) - American Justin Gatlin pipped six-time Olympic champion Usain Bolt to victory in the men's 100 metres at the Rome Golden Gala, the fifth leg of the Diamond League, on Thursday.

Gatlin came into the event buoyed by his victory in the opening leg in Doha and in Eugene last weekend, while Bolt was making his first appearance in Europe since his recent

recovery from a hamstring injury.

The American, an Olympic champion in 2004 who went on to serve a four-year doping ban, had a solid start and by 80 metres both he and Bolt were neck and neck as the pair pulled ahead of the field.

As the finish approached Gatlin dipped his head over the line desperately, which was good enough to hand him the win in a time of 9.94sec, just outside his season's best of 9.91 set in Beijing last month.

Jamaican Bolt, the world record holder in 9.58sec, was second in a season best of 9.95, with Frenchman Jimmy Vicaut claiming a surprise third place finish ahead of American Michael Rodgers in a personal best of 10.02.

Bolt admitted that after weeks on the sidelines trying to recover, his technique was rusty.

Football: Brazil slump to 22nd in world rankings

PARIS (AFP) - World Cup hosts Brazil slumped to a new record low in the FIFA world rankings on Thursday as the five-time world champions dropped three places to 22nd.

Having spent most of the first 15 years of official FIFA world rankings at the top of the pile, Brazil's extraordinary demise began a year ago when the Selecao dropped six places from fifth to 11th in July 2012.

Luis Felipe Scolari's team has been in freefall ever since and have now reached their worst ever position.

Brazil have not played a competitive match since losing on penalties to Paraguay in the Cop America quarter-finals in Argentina two years ago.

Since then they have played only a series of friendlies, the latest a 2-2 draw with England in the newly refurbished Maracana stadium.

The top four remained unchanged with Spain ahead of Germany, Argentina and Croatia.

The Netherlands jumped four places into fifth with England dropping two places to ninth. France remain down in 18th.

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Baseball: White Sox best Mariners in 16-inning saga

SEATTLE (AFP) - Alejandro De Aza drove in the go-ahead run in the top of the 16th inning Wednesday as the Chicago White Sox beat the Seattle Mariners 7-5 in a 16-inning saga.

Neither team could get a run on the board over the first 13 innings, then both scored five in the 14th to extend a contest that eventually stretched to five hours and 42 minutes.

White Sox closer Addison Reed gave up a game-tying grand slam to Kyle Seager in the bottom of the 14th, but struck out the side in his third inning of work to end the epic.

Seager's blast made him the first player in Major League



Gordon Beckham #15 of the Chicago White Sox scores on an RBI single by Alejandro De Aza in the sixteenth inning

Baseball history to hit a tying grand slam in extra innings.

That made the Mariners' eventual defeat even harder to swallow.

Alex Rios went 4-for-8, and his second run-batted-in of the game scored De Aza and gave the White Sox an insurance run in their final turn at bat.

The marathon affair saw the White Sox take the lead for good after Gordon Beckham stole second base following his leadoff single in the 16th. De Aza drove a one-out single to center to send home the go-ahead run, and then came around himself on Rios' infield hit.

This time there would be no miracle rally for the Mariners, although Seattle had their chances earlier. They finished 3-for-16 with runners in scoring position, failing to provide any support for Japanese starting pitcher Hishashi Iwakuma, who gave up just three hits in eight strong innings and retired the last 16 batters he faced.

The teams were a combined 0-for-16 with runners in scoring position through 13 innings.

In the 14th, De Aza drew a lead off walk, advanced to third on a single from Alexei Ramirez and scored the first run of the game when Rios belted a single to center off Mariners reliever Danny Farquhar.

The White Sox then loaded the bases and drove in four more runs.

That five-run burst, however, wasn't enough.

In the bottom of the inning, four Mariners batters reached base with consecutive one-out singles and Endy Chavez scored a run with his hit.

Jason Bay struck out with the bases loaded, then Seager, down to his last strike, smacked a breaking ball from Reed into the seats in right center.

"You don't score any runs for 13 innings and then you score 10 in one inning," Mariners manager Eric Wedge said of both teams.

"That's baseball. So, when you talk about never being able to figure this game out, that's a great example ... you've got to love the fight."

Formula One: Drama ... continued from page 16

Stirred by the inconsistencies created by tyre performance, many teams and drivers have already felt emotional this season -- and the sense of brooding conflict was intensified further by Mexican Sergio Perez's ultra-aggressive racing for McLaren at the Monaco Grand Prix.

Criticised by a series of drivers, including his own teammate Briton Jenson Button, Ferrari's Spaniard Fernando Alonso and Finn Kimi Raikkonen of Lotus, who suggested he deserved 'a punch in the face' for his actions and attitude, Perez has become the bad boy of this year's grid.

Since Button, champion in 2009, Alonso (2005 and 2006) and Raikkonen (2007) have won four titles between them, it was expected that Perez, 23, and McLaren might apologise and smooth ruffled feathers before the race at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve.

Instead, the team's sporting director Sam Michael on Wednesday sprang to his defence, insisting he had done nothing wrong and the team supported his aggressive approach.

Michael said: "Ultimately he is a racing driver and he is just racing. It was obviously hard racing, but that is what F1 is about. McLaren supports the way that he is racing at the moment and what he's doing. We are fully behind him."

"All the moves he did are all moves that have been done by all of those drivers at various

points of their careers - some not that long ago. The overtaking opportunities that are available at the Monaco chicane are ones that have been used for a long time before Checo was even born, so it's not the case that he was applying them as something new."

"He is racing for his position and establishing himself. The racing he is doing, all those other drivers have done themselves. That's Formula One."

Michael admitted Perez had gone through a 'transition' in recent races, following a slightly cautious start which prompted team boss Martin Whitmarsh to urge him to be tougher on track.

A continued display of similar aggression is sure to provide some moments of great spectacle and potential drama and danger this weekend on a circuit where high speeds and heavy braking are normal -- and where unforgiving walls around the track always claim a series of victims. Of the current field, only Briton Lewis Hamilton is a multiple Montreal winner -- he triumphed three times, in 2007, 2010 and 2012, and will be looking for his first win for Mercedes after succeeding German great Michael Schumacher at the team. Schumacher won Montreal seven times.

But to claim another success, Hamilton knows that first he has to beat his in-form teammate German Nico Rosberg, winner in Monaco, and championship leader and defending triple champion German Sebastian Vettel of Red Bull.

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It's Serena v Sharapova in French Open final

PARIS (AFP) - The top two seeds -- Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova -- will contest Saturday's French Open final, but they took starkly contrasting routes to get there from Thursday's semi-finals. Top seed Williams bulldozed her way past an outclassed Sara Errani of Italy 6-0, 6-1 in just 46 minutes. Defending champion Sharapova survived a second-set slump and a glut of double faults to ease past Victoria Azarenka 6-1, 2-6, 6-4. It will be the first time since 1995, when Steffi Graf defeated top seed Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, that the two top seeds have contested the women's final at Roland Garros. The two have met 15 times with Williams ahead 13-2 and Sharapova has not won since she defeated the American as a 17-year-old newcomer at the season-ending WTA Championship in 2004. Meanwhile in men's category Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal meet for the 35th time on Friday when they clash for a place in the French Open final. World number one Djokovic needs a Roland Garros title to become just the eighth man to capture a career Grand Slam. Nadal, meanwhile, is just two matches away from becoming the first man in history to win the same major on eight occasions. It's the match-up that most neutrals would have hoped to have graced Sunday's final, but Nadal's seven-month absence from the sport contributed to his number three seeding in Paris and hence a blockbuster semi-final collision beckons.



Formula One: Drama and danger in prospect in Canada

MONTREAL (AFP) - After a pause in Europe, Formula One's flying circus arrives in Canada this weekend with controversy stirring in all areas of the paddock and pitlane ahead of a race that is usually one of the most unpredictable and entertaining of the season.

Two races, in Spain and Monaco, followed four early-season flyaways to set up the first trip of the year to North America, with a closely-contested championship creating tensions amid rumbling arguments over the performance of the fast-wearing Pirelli tyres.

The dramatic call, made late on Wednesday evening in Paris, for Mercedes to face the



International Tribunal of the sport's ruling body, the International Motoring Federation (FIA), to explain allegations of illegal secret in-season testing of Pirelli's tyres, added more

spice to an already heated atmosphere ahead of the 44th running of one of F1's favourite events.

continues on page 15

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FORT WORTH, TX (AFP) : Matt Crafton, driver of the #88 Goof Off/Menards Chevrolet, leads Ryan Blaney, driver of the #29 Cooper Standard Ford, during practice for NASCAR Camping World Truck Series WinStar World Casino 400 at Texas Motor Speedway yesterday Fort Worth, Texas.

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